

Dear FCC:

I've never written
to you or any other
federal commission
in my long life, but
I feel compelled at
this time to
register my
patriotic concern
for the welfare of
our basic American
freedoms.

Sinclair
Broadcasting has
made a decision to
force their stations
to air an anti-John
Kerry documentary
days before the
election. I find
this a disturbing
sign of just how far
down river media
consolidation has
taken our right to
fair and balanced
journalism as a
licensed obligation
bestowed upon media
giants by the FCC.

Like all networks,
Sinclair
Broadcasting uses
the public airwaves
free of charge, and
is obligated by law
to serve the public
interest, not just
the radical
conservative
interest that
continues to
endeavor to usurp a
balanced news media.
When large
companies control
the airwaves, the
bottom line of
economic benefit for
the companies takes
precedence over what
is vital for the
health and progress
of our democracy.

We need to see real
people from our own
communities and
substantive news
about issues that
matter to all of us
rather than

meat-grinder news
stories imposed on
local stations to
serve a corporate
agenda. It is wrong
to allow this kind
of propagandizing
over the airwaves,
and as a veteran
loyal to my country
and to the spirit of
freedom and
democracy, I protest
this latest skirmish
in a long battle of
idealologies which has
become a scramble
for all-costs
victory through
devious tactics
rather than due and
careful
consideration of
issues based on
their individual
merits.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard.

Please register me
as one American in
favor of balance,
not muckracking.

Thank you.

James C. Lawrence